

# Maipure language

**Maipure** (Maypure, Mejepure), was a language once spoken along the Ventuari, Sipapo, and Autana rivers of Amazonas and, as a lingua franca, in the Upper Orinoco region. It became extinct around the end of the eighteenth century. Zamponi provided a grammatical sketch of the language and furnished a classified word list, based on all of its extant eighteenth century material (mainly from the Italian missionary Filippo S. Gilij).<sup>[2]</sup> It is historically important in that it formed the cornerstone of the recognition of the Maipurean (Arawakan) language family.

Kaufman (1994) gives its closest relatives as Yavitero and other languages of the Orinoco branch of Upper Amazon Arawakan. Aikhenvald places it instead in the Western Nawiki branch.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Notes and references

- Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Maipure" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/maip1246>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
- Zamponi, Raoul (2003). *Maipure*. Languages of the World. Materials 192. Munich: Lincom Europa. **ISBN 978-3-89586-757-6**.
- Aikhenvald, Alexandra Y. (1999). "The Arawak language family". In Dixon, R. M. W.; Aikhenvald, A. Y. (eds.). *The Amazonian languages*. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press. p. ?. **ISBN 978-0-521-57021-3**.

Maipure	
Native to	Venezuela
Region	Orinoco
Extinct	late 18th century
Language family	<div>Arawakan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Northern<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Upper Amazonian<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Orinoco (Yavitero) or Western Nawiki<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Maipure</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Linguist List	qij ( <a href="http://multitree.org/codes/qij">http://multitree.org/codes/qij</a> )
Glottolog	maip1246 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/maip1246">http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/maip1246</a> ) <sup>[1]</sup>

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**This page was last edited on 13 June 2018, at 21:14 (UTC).**

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